

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 4/15/2020 6:00:37 PM

First name: Bud

Last name: Ruana

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Clearwater National Forest Plan Revision

To whom it may concern:

In the early 1960's my dad instilled in me a love and appreciation for the mountains of western Montana. We enjoyed hiking, horseback riding, skiing, 4x4 driving, but most of all I fell in love with trail riding on motorcycles. Since those early days over 90% of my favorite riding areas have been partially or completely closed to motorized recreation, vastly limiting access and condensing use to smaller, more restricted areas.

I currently ride a snow-bike which has little to no environmental impact on the areas where we recreate and allows me access to areas closed to dirt bikes. In the upcoming Nez-Perc Clearwater national Forest Plan revision, I would like to recommend that the current Hoodoo RWA acreage be reclassified as 'Semi-Primitive Motorized Limited' to allow mountain bikes, snowmobiles and snow-bikes. With this plan, the North Fork Spruce-White Sands and Sneakfoot Meadows RWAs would be eliminated and those areas opened for recreation. This would help reverse the current trend of over population in existing areas due to loss of opportunity by restrictions currently in place.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Dennis R. Ruana

406-396-1853